ROMAN NUMERALS

In the Roman system of notation, letters are used to designate numbers. The symbols used are I, V, X, L, C, D and M.

Roman Numerals	Arabic Equivalent	
I	1	(power of 10)
V	5	
X	10	(power of 10)
L	50	
C	100	(power of 10)
D	500	
M	1000	(power of 10)

These seven symbols can be combined to represent all numbers. Roman numerals are frequently used with apothecaries' measures.

Reference Table for Roman Numerals

I	=	1	VIII	=	8	LX	=	60	CD	=	400
II	=	2	IX	=	9	LXX	=	70	D	=	500
III	=	3	X	=	10	LXXX	=	80	DC	=	600
IV	=	4	XX	=	20	XC	=	90	DCC	=	700
V	=	5	XXX	=	30	C	=	100	DCCC	=	800
VI	=	6	XL	=	40	CC	=	200	CM	=	900
VII	=	7	L	=	50	CCC	=	300	M	=	1000

Rules governing the use of Roman Numerals

1. Symbols cannot be repeated more than three times in succession.
    II = 2 and III = 3 are allowed, but IIII is not allowed.
    4 is written as IV.
    Note: V, L *and* D *cannot be repeated.*

2. When a symbol follows one of the same or larger value, they are added to one another.
    XXII = 10 + 10 + 1 + 1 = 22
    VIII = 5 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 8

3. When a symbol precedes one that has a larger value, the value of the first is subtracted from the value of the second.
    IX = 10 – 1 = 9
    XL = 50 – 10 = 40
    Note: The symbols V, D, *and* L *can never be subtracted. Only the powers of ten can be subtracted.*

4. Each power of ten can only appear before the next two larger roman numerals.
    IV = 4, IX = 9, XL = 40, XC = 90, CD = 40, and CM = 900